



TREASURE VALLEY

ADA, ADAMS, BOISE, CANYON, ELMORE, GEM, OWYHEE, PAYETTE, VALLEY, & WASHINGTON COUNTIES

EMPLOYMENT TRENDS

The Boise City Metropolitan Statistical Area's (MSA) average annual unemployment rate for August 2003 was 5.5 percent, as shown in Treasure Valley Table 1. This was one-tenth of a percentage point above the July 2003 rate of 5.4 percent and one-tenth of a percentage point above the August 2002 rate of 5.4 percent. Month-over-month, the number of employed persons decreased by 400, or 0.2 percent, from July 2003, and the number of unemployed individuals increased by 200 individuals, or 1.5 percent. The decreasing number of persons employed and the increasing number of persons unemployed created an overall decrease of 200 individuals, or 0.5 percent, in the *Civilian Labor Force*, from July 2003. Year-over-year, the number of employed persons decreased by 7,000, or 3.0 percent, and the number of unemployed individuals decreased by 100 individuals or 0.7 percent, creating a net decrease in the *Civilian Labor Force* of 7,100 individuals from August 2002. The *Civilian Labor Force* figures for August 2003 for

| Treasure Valley Table 2: August 2003 Seasonally Adjusted Labor Force Figures for Southwest Idaho Counties | | | | |
|---|----------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------|
| | Civilian Labor Force | Number Unem- ployed | Percent Unem- ployed | Number Employed |
| Ada | 174,664 | 8,476 | 4.9 | 166,188 |
| Adams | 1,846 | 288 | 15.6 | 1,558 |
| Boise | 2,633 | 197 | 7.5 | 2,437 |
| Canyon | 68,669 | 4,874 | 7.1 | 63,795 |
| Elmore | 9,823 | 652 | 6.6 | 9,172 |
| Gem | 6,104 | 465 | 7.6 | 5,638 |
| Owyhee | 4,153 | 90 | 2.2 | 4,063 |
| Payette | 9,505 | 1,200 | 12.6 | 8,305 |
| Valley | 3,985 | 334 | 8.4 | 3,651 |
| Washington | 4,244 | 637 | 15.0 | 3,607 |
| Statewide | 685,125 | 39,084 | 5.7 | 646,041 |

Treasure Valley Table 1: Boise MSA Labor Force & Employment
Ada and Canyon Counties

| | Aug 2003* | July 2003 | Aug 2002 | % Change Last Month | % Change Last Year |
|---|--------------|--------------|-------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| INDIVIDUALS BY PLACE OF RESIDENCE | | | | | |
| Seasonally Adjusted | | | | | |
| Civilian Labor Force | 243,400 | 243,600 | 250,500 | -0.1 | -2.8 |
| Unemployment | 13,400 | 13,200 | 13,500 | 1.5 | -0.7 |
| % of Labor Force Unemployed | 5.5 | 5.4 | 5.4 | | |
| Total Employment | 230,000 | 230,400 | 237,000 | -0.2 | -3.0 |
| Unadjusted | | | | | |
| Civilian Labor Force | 244,700 | 247,500 | 253,000 | -1.1 | -3.3 |
| Unemployment | 12,400 | 12,900 | 12,400 | -3.9 | 0.0 |
| % of Labor Force Unemployed | 5.1 | 5.2 | 4.9 | | |
| Total Employment | 232,300 | 234,600 | 240,600 | -1.0 | -3.4 |
| JOBS BY PLACE OF WORK | | | | | |
| Nonfarm Payroll Jobs** | 228,300 | 227,600 | 230,100 | 0.3 | -0.8 |
| GOODS-PRODUCING INDUSTRIES | 46,300 | 46,000 | 48,600 | 0.7 | -4.7 |
| Natural Resources & Construction | | | | | |
| Manufacturing | 16,100 | 15,900 | 16,600 | 1.3 | -3.0 |
| Durable Goods | 30,200 | 30,100 | 32,000 | 0.3 | -5.6 |
| Wood Product Manufacturing | 23,100 | 23,000 | 25,000 | 0.4 | -7.6 |
| Fabricated Metal Products Mfg. | 2,000 | 2,000 | 2,000 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Machinery Manufacturing | 1,500 | 1,400 | 1,500 | 7.1 | 0.0 |
| Computer & Electronic Manufacturing | 1,300 | 1,300 | 1,400 | 0.0 | -7.1 |
| Transportation Equipment Mfg. | 14,500 | 14,400 | 16,300 | 0.7 | -11.0 |
| Other Durable Goods | 1,600 | 1,600 | 1,700 | 0.0 | -5.9 |
| Nondurable Goods | 2,200 | 2,300 | 2,100 | -4.3 | 4.8 |
| Food Manufacturing | 7,100 | 7,100 | 7,000 | 0.0 | 1.4 |
| Printing & Related Support Activities | 5,200 | 5,200 | 5,200 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Other Nondurable Goods | 700 | 700 | 800 | 0.0 | -12.5 |
| SERVICE-PROVIDING INDUSTRIES | 1,200 | 1,200 | 1,000 | 0.0 | 20.0 |
| Trade, Transportation, & Utilities | 182,000 | 181,600 | 181,500 | 0.2 | 0.3 |
| Trade | 44,800 | 44,700 | 45,000 | 0.2 | -0.4 |
| Wholesale Trade | 37,900 | 37,800 | 38,000 | 0.3 | -0.3 |
| Wholesalers, Durable Goods | 10,600 | 10,600 | 10,400 | 0.0 | 1.9 |
| Wholesalers, Nondurable Goods | 6,600 | 6,600 | 6,500 | 0.0 | 1.5 |
| Retail Trade | 2,800 | 2,800 | 3,100 | 0.0 | -9.7 |
| Food & Beverage Stores | 27,300 | 27,200 | 27,600 | 0.4 | -1.1 |
| General Merchandise Stores | 4,100 | 4,100 | 4,200 | 0.0 | -2.4 |
| All Other Retail Trade | 5,900 | 5,800 | 6,000 | 1.7 | -1.7 |
| Transportation, Warehousing, & Utilities | 17,300 | 17,300 | 17,400 | 0.0 | -0.6 |
| Utilities | 6,900 | 6,900 | 7,000 | 0.0 | -1.4 |
| Transportation & Warehousing | 700 | 700 | 700 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Information | 6,200 | 6,200 | 6,300 | 0.0 | -1.6 |
| Telecommunications | 3,600 | 3,600 | 3,600 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Financial Activities | 1,400 | 1,400 | 1,300 | 0.0 | 7.7 |
| Finance & Insurance | 12,200 | 12,200 | 12,100 | 0.0 | 0.8 |
| Real Estate & Rental & Leasing | 9,200 | 9,200 | 8,900 | 0.0 | 3.4 |
| Professional & Business Services | 3,000 | 3,000 | 3,200 | 0.0 | -6.3 |
| Professional, Scientific, & Technical | 33,400 | 32,700 | 32,500 | 2.1 | 2.8 |
| Management of Companies & Ent. | 9,400 | 9,400 | 10,200 | 0.0 | -7.8 |
| Administrative & Support & Waste Mgmt. | 7,000 | 7,000 | 6,900 | 0.0 | 1.4 |
| Educational & Health Services | 17,000 | 16,300 | 15,400 | 4.3 | 10.4 |
| Educational Services | 27,700 | 27,600 | 26,900 | 0.4 | 3.0 |
| Health Care & Social Assistance | 1,900 | 1,900 | 1,900 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Hospitals | 25,800 | 25,700 | 25,000 | 0.4 | 3.2 |
| Leisure & Hospitality | 9,200 | 9,100 | 8,900 | 1.1 | 3.4 |
| Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation | 19,900 | 20,000 | 20,800 | -0.5 | -4.3 |
| Accommodation & Food Services | 2,800 | 2,900 | 3,000 | -3.4 | -6.7 |
| Accommodation | 17,100 | 17,100 | 17,800 | 0.0 | -3.9 |
| Food Services & Drinking Places | 2,000 | 2,100 | 2,100 | -4.8 | -4.8 |
| Other Services | 15,100 | 15,000 | 15,700 | 0.7 | -3.8 |
| Total Government | 6,700 | 6,700 | 6,800 | 0.0 | -1.5 |
| Federal Government | 33,700 | 34,100 | 33,800 | -1.2 | -0.3 |
| State & Local Government | 5,600 | 5,500 | 5,500 | 1.8 | 1.8 |
| State Government | 28,100 | 28,600 | 28,300 | -1.7 | -0.7 |
| State Government Education | 12,900 | 12,800 | 12,500 | 0.8 | 3.2 |
| State Government Administration | 3,400 | 3,400 | 3,700 | 0.0 | -8.1 |
| Local Government | 9,500 | 9,400 | 8,800 | 1.1 | 8.0 |
| Local Government Education | 15,200 | 15,800 | 15,800 | -3.8 | -3.8 |
| Local Government Administration | 8,300 | 8,600 | 8,900 | -3.5 | -6.7 |
| | 6,900 | 7,200 | 6,900 | -4.2 | 0.0 |

* Preliminary Estimate

**Full- or part-time jobs of people who worked for or received wages in the pay period including the 12th of the month

all ten counties in Southwest Idaho are shown in Treasure Valley Table 2 on page 11.

In the Boise City MSA *Nonfarm Payroll Jobs* increased by 700, or 0.3 percent, from July 2003 to August 2003, while over the year, *Nonfarm Payroll Jobs* lost 1,800 jobs in the Boise City MSA. Month-over-month, *Goods-Producing Industries* gained 300 jobs; job gains were noted in *Natural Resources, Mining, & Construction* (200 jobs), *Fabricated Metal Products Manufacturing* (100 jobs) and *Computer & Electronic Products Manufacturing* (100 jobs) while job decreases were noted in *Other Durable Goods Manufacturing* (-100 jobs). Year-over-year, *Goods-Producing Industries* lost 2,300 jobs. Losses occurred in *Natural Resources, Mining, & Construction* (-500 jobs), *Machinery Manufacturing* (-100 jobs), *Computer & Electronic Product Manufacturing* (-1,800 jobs), *Transportation Equipment Manufacturing* (-100 jobs), and *Printing and Related Supports Activities* (-100 jobs). Job gains occurred in *Other Durable Goods Manufacturing* (100 jobs) and *Other Nondurable Goods Manufacturing* (200).

In *Service-Providing Industries*, jobs gained outweighed jobs lost with 400 jobs gained in the Boise City MSA from July 2003 to August 2003. Job gains were experienced in *General Merchandise Stores* (100 jobs), *Administrative & Support & Waste Management Services* (700 jobs), *Health Care & Social Assistance Services* (100 jobs) including *Hospitals* (100 jobs), *Food Services & Drinking Places* (100 jobs), *Federal Government* (100 jobs), and *State Government Administration* (100 jobs). Job losses occurred in *Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation Services* (-100 jobs), *Accommodation Services* (-100 jobs), *Local Government Education* (-300 jobs), and *Local Government Administration* (-300 jobs). Year-over-year, *Service-Providing Industries* gained 500 jobs. Among those were gains were jobs in *Durable Goods Wholesale Trade* (100 jobs), *Telecommunications Services* (100 jobs), *Finance & Insurance Services* (300 jobs), *Management of Companies & Enterprises* (100 jobs), *Administrative & Support & Waste Management Services* (1,600 jobs), *Health Care & Social Assistance Services* (800 jobs), *Hospitals* (300 jobs), *Federal Government* (100 jobs), and *State Government Administration* (700 jobs). Job losses were noted in *Nondurable Goods Wholesale Trade* (-300 jobs), *Food and Beverage Stores* (-100 jobs), *General Merchandise Stores* (-100 jobs), *All Other Retail Trade* (-100 jobs), *Transportation & Warehousing Services* (-100 jobs), *Real Estate & Rental & Leasing Services* (-200 jobs), *Professional, Scientific, & Technical*

Services (-800 jobs), *Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation Services* (-200 jobs), *Accommodation Services* (-100 jobs), *Food Services & Drinking Places* (-600 jobs), *Other Services* (-100 jobs), *State Government Education* (-300 jobs), and *Local Government Education* (-600 jobs). The slow growth of jobs over the year is consistent with the downturn and slow recovery that the national economy has been experiencing since January 2001.

AREA DEVELOPMENTS

Boise City MSA

- The Hispanic Cultural Center of Idaho opened in Nampa on September 6. The 36,000-square-foot facility features several rooms to be used for lectures, classes, and training; a multipurpose community room that can accommodate up to 350 people; culinary classrooms; a computer lab; a gift shop; a gallery that will house artwork by local, national, and international artists; rooms where English and Spanish financial classes will be offered by Home Federal; and a library. At the grand-opening celebration, Dana Gioia, the National Endowment for the Arts chairman, spoke to supporters and the public who gathered to celebrate the opening.
- Treasure Valley Community College (TVCC) held a grand opening celebration for its satellite campus in the Idaho Migrant Council's (IMC) El Mercado Building in Caldwell in early September. The TVCC Caldwell Center will be an educational resource that will serve community needs of Canyon County and surrounding counties. More than 70 classes are taught in the facility, which includes five classrooms.
- The Boise River Festival organizers announced that they would file for Chapter 7 bankruptcy protection and liquidate all assets. Operations ceased immediately following the announcement, meaning that the 13-year festival had ended. The Boise River Festival had reached a debt of \$500,000 and is selling its assets to raise money to pay the debt. The festival will not be held in 2004, although popular events like the balloon rally, fireworks show, and block party concerts may continue in other forms.
- Qwest announced that it was expanding in early September. The company announced that it would add 150 jobs to its Boise DSL technical support center; Qwest currently employs 300 at

the Boise facility. The DSL technical support center offers 24-hour seven-day-a-week technical support for customers with DSL service. DSL is a broadband high-speed technology used by individuals and businesses primarily for accessing the Internet.

- Micron Technology sold 33.9 million shares of stock (5.3 percent of common stock) to Intel. The \$450 million deal indicates Intel and Micron have a strong corporate relationship; the two companies have plans for joint development and deployment of new products in the future.
- J. R. Simplot closed its meat processing plant in Nampa and laid off 272 people on September 19. Company officials blame beef industry economics for the closure citing lack of profitability as its chief reason for shutting the doors. Before closing, the company tried to sell the plant and preserve jobs, but no buyer was found. The company previously laid off 87 employees when it closed a potato processing line at a plant in Canyon County earlier this year; the two layoffs leave nearly 360 people unemployed.
- The Idaho Athletic Club continues construction on its 29,000-square-foot building located at the corner of Overland Road and Maple Grove in southwest Boise. The new club will feature a half-court basketball facility, an indoor pool, an aerobics room, an exercise equipment room, and offices. The facility is expected to open in February 2004. This will be the fourth Idaho Athletic Club facility in the Treasure Valley.
- Bella Fina, a furniture and home accessories store, held a grand opening in late September in Meridian. The 14,000-square-foot store is located on Sonata Lane near Lee Read Jewelers and can be seen from I-84. The store sells boutique-style furniture, hand-loomed rugs, purses, belts, leather goods, wall coverings, artwork, jewelry, and linens.
- Hampton Inn & Suites opened a new hotel near the Idaho Center in Nampa in mid-September. The four-story facility has 101 rooms and 4,000-square feet of conference space. The hotel plans to hold a grand opening celebration in mid-October.
- Procter & Gamble announced plans to open a Boise sales office this fall. The sales office will be located near Albertsons headquarters in the River Quarry office complex in Boise and is part of Procter & Gamble's North American Market Development Organization. The Boise office will employ about 12 people.
- Sunset Sports, located on the corner of Curtis and Fairview in Boise, closed in late September. The owners started liquidating the merchandise in late August.
- Ashley Manor Care Center held a grand opening for its fourth and newest facility in Canyon County in mid-September. The new facility is located at 2604 Iowa Street in Caldwell. The company specializes in the care of patients with Alzheimer's and other forms of dementia. The new center can accommodate seven patients.
- In other recent business happenings in the Boise City MSA: Farmers and Merchants State Bank broke ground and started construction of their newest branch on 12th Avenue in Nampa; construction started on a Maverik convenience store at the southeast corner of 10th Avenue and Ustick Road in Caldwell; construction began on a Pizza Hut that will anchor the Cherry Crossing office development, located at the northwest corner of Cherry Lane and Linder Road in Meridian; construction started on a Fred Astaire Dance Studio that will be located in the SilverStone Corporate Center on Eagle Road, south of Overland Road in Meridian; a 10,800-square-foot Reebok outlet store opened in the Boise Factory Outlet Mall in southwest Boise; a Wonder/Hostess Bakery Outlet opened in The Shops, located at State and Bloom Streets in Boise; Moffett Photography reopened in downtown Nampa after a remodel. In addition, Primary Health announced plans to open an office on Emerald Street in Boise in early 2004, Liberty Northwest announced that it plans to move its operations from its current location on Park-Center Boulevard to a space on Chinden Boulevard west of Cloverdale in Boise, Great West Casualty Co. announced plans to move its operations from its current location on Emerald Street in Boise to a new facility in the El Dorado commercial complex in Meridian, West Coast Paper announced plans to move its operations

from its current location on River Street to a more spacious warehouse on Federal Way in southeast Boise.

Adams County

- A new Subway restaurant was recently opened at the corner of U.S. 95 and Idaho 55 in New Meadows. Susan and Dave Kellogg opened the restaurant and own several other businesses at the U.S. 95 and Idaho 55 crossroads.

Elmore County

- Mountain Home held its annual Air Force Appreciation Day celebration in September. This year, nearly 85,000 spectators attended the celebration that included a fun run, dance, parade, and entertainment. More than 50,000 people were viewing the USAF Thunderbirds air show demonstration when an F-16C crashed into the ground. The pilot safely ejected from his seat just seconds before the crash; he was treated at the hospital for minor injuries and released.

Gem County

- Walter Knox Memorial Hospital recently started an expansion project. Some of the construction will be on the main entrance, so a temporary entrance is located at the east side emergency doors. Once the remodeling/expansion project is completed, the lab and radiology departments will be larger, the post-surgery and recovery rooms will be remodeled, the dietary area will be smaller, and a business office and medical records area will be added. The remodeling/expansion project is scheduled for completion by July 2004.

Payette County

- Nick Grace and Brian Jackson opened Lucky 2 Boot, Tack, and Shoe Repair in Payette. The business repairs shoes, boots, tack, tents, saddles, chaps, and more.
- Snake River Veterinary Center opened in its new location on U.S. Highway 95 in Fruitland in late August. Snake River Veterinary Center, once known as Ashton Veterinary Center and Ashton-Clark Veterinary Center, was located at 1844 Seventh Avenue North in Payette for more than 50 years. The new facility is large enough to house everything for the clinic, and there is extra land to construct a barn on the property for large animal care.

Valley County

- The Ashley Inn of Cascade held its grand opening in mid-September. The 67-room inn boasts a number of amenities, including a swimming pool, spa, exercise facility, massage, conference area, and a continental breakfast. Ashley Inn employs 30 full- and part-time employees.
- Tamarack Resort started utilities work on its property near Donnelly, by awarding contracts to several companies. Warrington Construction was awarded a \$2 million contract to build 5.3 miles of sewer line from Donnelly to Tamarack Resort, and to upgrade the North Lake Water & Sewer District treatment facility. Masco Construction was awarded a \$640,000 contract to install about 2.1 miles of collection sewer line within the resort. Idaho Power started a \$2.6 million line upgrade from Donnelly to the resort. Frontier Communications was awarded a contract for the installation of underground telephone within the resort. Charter Communication was awarded a contract to install and operate the cable TV system at the resort. This winter, the public will be able to use 22 kilometers of Nordic skating lanes and guided snowcat skiing. When completed, Tamarack Resort will be a \$1.5 billion four-season resort.

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